

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 066813
ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 H-01 SIG-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
DPW-01 DHA-02 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /073 R

DRAFTED BY EA/IMS:DTKENNEY:ECINGRAHAM:LGR
APPROVED BY EA - ROBERT B. OAKLEY
H - MS. SWIFT (INFORMED)

-----252123Z 111321 /62

O R 252048Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION USUN NY
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, SHUM, ID, PT, AS

SUBJECT: CONGRESSSSIONAL INTEREST IN TIMOR

REF: STATE 61228

1. WIRELESS FILE (EPF 35) ITEM 56 OF MARCH 23 CARRIES
TEXT OF PREPARED STATEMENT BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OAKLEY AT MARCH 23 HEARING ON TIMOR BY JOINT SESSION OF
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WOLFF AND FRASER HIRC SUBCOMMITTEES. FOLLOWING ARE HIGH-LIGHTS OF HEARING.

2. QUESTIONS TO OAKLEY AND HIS RESPONSES COVERED MUCH THE SAME GROUND AS AT MARCH 17 HEARING (REFTEL): USE OF U.S. SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT IN TIMOR AND WHETHER IT VIOLATED U.S. LAWS, U.S. POSITION ON INDONESIAN INCORPORATION OF EAST TIMOR, WHETHER AND WHEN ATROCITIES OCCURRED AND HOW MANY, CURRENT SITUATION IN EAST TIMOR. OAKLEY RESPONDED ALONG LINES HIS PREPARED STATEMENT AND EARLIER TESTIMONY AND

ACKNOWLEDGED U.S. BELIEF THAT INDONESIAN MILITARY UNITS AND U.S. ARMS HAD BEEN USED ON DECEMBER 7 AND AFTERWARDS. ASKED WHAT U.S. ATTITUDE WOULD BE TOWARD FURTHER UN ACTION ON TIMOR, HE REMINDED COMMITTEE WE HAD VOTED AGAINST DECEMBER 1976 RESOLUTION ON GROUNDS WE DID NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN RESOLVING SITUATION. WE SOUGHT

COOPERATION RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION. WITH REGARD TO FUTURE UN ROLE, U.S. WOULD CONSIDER FAVORABLY ROLE THAT WAS POTENTIALLY CONSTRUCTIVE. ASKED ABOUT POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF ICRC, HE SAID WE FAVOR ICRC ACCESS TO EAST TIMOR AS POTENTIALLY CONSTRUCTIVE. OAKLEY REAFFIRMED STATEMENT IN PREPARED TESTIMONY FOR MARCH 17 HEARING ABOUT SUPPORT FOR PRESENT LEVEL OF MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR INDONESIA, AS WELL AS USG CONCERN OVER HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS.

3. COUNTRY OFFICER KENNEY RESPONDING TO A QUESTION OF WHETHER THE U.S. SHOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN VIEW OF THE USE OF US-SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT IN EAST TIMOR, NOTED THAT OUR ASSISTANCE SERVED IMPORTANT U.S. POLICY GOALS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AMONG THEM THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF REGIONAL SECURITY AND THE MAINTENANCE OF AN INDEPENDENT INDONESIA WITH WHOM THE U.S. HAD CLOSE AND FRIENDLY TIES. IN VIEW OF THE CONFLICTING INFORMATION AVAILABLE, MOST OF WHICH DID NOT SUPPORT THE CHARGES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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MADE IN GENERAL BY MR. DUNN, KENNEY QUESTIONED WHETHER THE SITUATION IN TIMOR SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO AFFECT OUR OVERALL POLICY GOALS IN INDONESIA.

4. DUNN WAS NEXT WITNESS. HIS STATEMENT (BEING POUCED TO POSTS BY USIA) WAS AN ABBREVIATED VERSION OF HIS ORIGINAL 85-PAGE REPORT, INCLUDING THE ALLEGATION THAT "POSSIBLY 50,000-100,000 PERSONS" HAD BEEN KILLED BY INDONESIAN FORCES. HE PRESENTED HIS CASE SKILLFULLY AND EFFECTIVELY. UNDER SUBSEQUENT QUESTIONING HE CONCEDED THAT HE HAD NOT HIMSELF WITNESSED THE EVENTS DESCRIBED AND RETREATED SOMEWHAT ON ESTIMATE OF CASUALTIES, DESCRIBING FIGURES MERELY AS ESTIMATES MADE "TO ENCOURAGE A FOLLOW-UP BY OTHERS". HE DISMISSED INDONESIAN PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING ACQUIESCEENCE TO MERGER BY TIMORESE POPULACE AS COMPLETELY STAGE MANAGED AND MEANINGLESS.

5. WOLFF, DERWINSKI AND BURKE ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW DUNN CAME TO APPEAR BEFORE SUBCOMMITTEE OF U.S. CONGRESS AND WHOM HE REPRESENTED. WOLFF SAID HE DID NOT WANT CONGRESS USED AS DEVICE FOR FURTHERING AUSTRALIAN POLITICS, SINCE U.S. HAD IMPORTANT TIES WITH BOTH INDONESIA AND AUSTRALIA. OTHERS ALSO INDICATED UNHAPPINESS OVER

POSSIBLY INVOLVING INTERNAL AUSTRALIAN POLITICS IN HEARING ON TIMOR. MRS. MEYNER ASKED WHAT AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S REACTION TO DUNN REPORT HAD BEEN, AND SPECIFICALLY WHETHER AUSTRALIA HAD CUT MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA AS RESULT INDONESIAN ACTIONS IN TIMOR. DUNN DESCRIBED AUSTRALIAN MILITARY AID AS INCONSEQUENTIAL BUT CONCEDED THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN TERMINATED OR REDUCED. HE EMPHASIZED

THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO BE IN POSITION OF CRITICIZING HIS OWN GOVERNMENT AND THAT IT WAS RATHER LATE IN THE DAY TO DO ANYTHING. HE COMMENTED THAT TIMOR ISSUE HAD ALREADY CREATED TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND THAT AUSTRALIA OBVIOUSLY WANTED TO AVOID MEASURES THAT WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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PLUNGE RELATIONS TO ALL-TIME LOW. DESCRIBING SELF AS LONG-TIME EXPERT ON INDONESIA, HE EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING FOR INDONESIA'S MANIFOLD PROBLEMS AND SAID THAT HE THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT THAT INDONESIA CONTINUE TO GET ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.

6. STATEMENT BY TIMORESE LEADER MARIO CARASCALAO (WHO WAS FLANKED ON STAND BY JOSE GONCALZEZ) ALSO BEING POUCHED. IT DESCRIBED HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF TIMOR CRISIS, EXPLAINED WHY CARASCALAO'S PARTY (UDT) HAD DECIDED TO SUPPORT MERGER WITH INDONESIA, AND DESCRIBED CURRENT DEVELOPMENT PLANS GETTING UNDERWAY IN EAST TIMOR. STATEMENT DENOUNCED DUNN ALLEGATIONS AS HEARSAY AND UNRELIABLE ACCOUNTS FROM REFUGEES WHO WERE NOT EVEN PRESENT AT THE TIME. IT REPEATED CHARGES OF MASSACRES BY FRETILIN AND CITED ALLEGED DISCOVERY BY INDONESIAN RED CROSS OF MASS GRAVE OF FRETILIN VICTIMS. CARASCALAO CHARGED THAT DUNN AND MANY OTHER AUSTRALIANS HAD ACTED AS "ADVISORS" TO FRETILIN AND CLAIMED THAT DUNN HAD BEEN "EXPelled" FROM EAST TIMOR.

7. ANSWERING QUESTIONS (IN PORTUGUESE THROUGH INTERPRETER) CARASCALAO GAVE LUCID ACCOUNT OF FACTORS THAT DECIDED UDT TO SHIFT FROM ADVOCACY OF INDEPENDENCE TO SUPPORTING MERGER WITH INDONESIA: TERRITORY'S EXTREME POVERTY, LACK OF VIABILITY AND SEVERE LACK OF TRAINED PERSONNEL. HE DESCRIBED CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE OF PROVINCE AND ASSERTED THAT PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT NOW CONTROLLED APPROXIMATELY SAME PORTION OF TERRITORY AS HAD PORTUGUESE. REMAINDER OF TERRITORY BEYOND GOVERNMENT'S DIRECT CONTROL WAS NOT CONTROLLED BY FRETILIN, HE STRESSED, BUT MERELY LET ALONE. HE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF REMAINING FRETILIN GUERRILLAS AS NO MORE THAN FEW HUNDRED.

8. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM FRASER AS TO FACT OF INDONESIAN ARMED INTERVENTION, CARASCALAO ATTEMPTED AVOID

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DIRECT REPLY BY PLEADING IGNORANCE OF DEVELOPMENTS IN DILI ON DECEMBER 7. WHEN PRESSED, HOWEVER, HE WOULD UP FLATLY DENYING THAT UNIFORMED INDONESIAN TROOPS HAD BEEN IN DILI PRIOR TO JULY 1976 MERGER. STATEMENT RECEIVED WITH GENERAL UNBELIEF BY SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS STILL PRESENT, BOTH MEYNER AND FRASER EXPRESSING SKEPTICISM. MRS. MEYNER WONDERED (WITH TONGUE IN CHEEK) "IF THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD LIED TO CONGRESS".

9. BOTH CARASCALAO AND GONCALZEZ STATED THAT TIMORESE NOW HELD ALL SENIOR POSITIONS IN EAST TIMOR PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, WERE RECEIVING QUANTITY OF MATERIAL AND TECHNICAL HELP FROM INDONESIA, AND THAT PEOPLE OF PROVINCE NOW HAD HOPE FOR FIRST TIME.

10. ADJOURNING HEARING, FRASER THANKED DUNN FOR APPEARANCE BUT DID NOT INDICATE WHETHER FURTHER HEARINGS WOULD BE SCHEDULED.

11. AT REQUEST OF CONGRESSMAN FRASER, DUNN MET WITH DEPARTMENT'S HUMAN RIGHTS COORDINATOR DERIAN AND WAS RECEIVED BRIEFLY BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE DURING HIS STAY IN WASHINGTON.

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ORIGIN EA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-02 ISO-00 /005 R

66011
DRAFTED BY: EA/RA/WGIM/MJ
APPROVED BY: EA/RA:RJMARTENS
EA/IMS:DKENNEY
EUR/NE:DJEREJIAN
EUR/NE:SWORREL
-----011943Z 015155 /44

R 310825Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION JAKARTA INFO BANGKOK, MANILA,

KUALA LUMPUR, SINGAPORE, CANBERRA, WELLINGTON, USUN NEW YORK,
GENEVA FROM STATE MARCH 25:

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 22-Sep-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TIMOR, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 NA
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770103-0483
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703111/baaaevni.tel
Line Count: 387
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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SAS ID: 2965290
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGRESSSINAL INTEREST IN TIMOR
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, SHUM, ID, PT, AS
To: JAKARTA INFO BANGKOK MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b0a501b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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